

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 04764 291114Z

44

ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /024 W

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R 290945Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 647

UNCLAS OSLO 4764

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, XMB, NO

SUBJ: EXIM BANK-NORWEGIAN BANKERS REQUEST APPOINTMENTS

1. OLAV EIKELAND, DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR, AND GUNNAR SIEBKE, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER OF FELLESBANKEN A/S IN OSLO WILL COME TO THE UNITED STATES SHORTLY AND WISH TO VISIT EXIM BANK OFFICIALS. THE FELLESBANKEN IS A COMMERCIAL BANK WHOLLY OWNED BY THE SAVINGS BANKS IN NORWAY AND CONDUCTS ALL THEIR COMMERCIAL BANKING ACTIVITIES. IT IS THE FIFTH LARGEST COMMERCIAL BANK IN NORWAY WITH CAPITAL OF THREE BILLION KRONER. UNTIL RECENTLY FELLESBANKEN DID LITTLE BUSINESS WITH THE EXIM BANK BUT RECENTLY GUARANTEED TWO LOANS EXTENDED BY THE EXIM BANK TO NORWEGIAN COMPANIES, I.E., SKIBS A/S ARAMIS, AMANGED BY MESSRS. BERNHARD HANSEN & CO. FLEKKEFJORD, AND K/S SEA-TROLL A/S, A JOINT VENTURE WHEREIN THE HJALMAR BJORGE GROUP OF OSLO PARTICIPATES. THE FELLESBANKEN EXPECTS TO DO FURTHER BUESINESS WITH THE EXAIM BANK AND MESSRS. EIKELAND AND SIEBKE WOULD LIKE TO INTORDICE THEMSELVES TO EXIM BANK OFFICIALS AND TO DISCUSS EXIM BANK POLICIES AND OPERATIONS.

2. MESSRS. EIKELAND AND SIEBKE WILL BE IN NEW YORK IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 4 WHEN THEY PLAN TO COME TO WASHINGTON. THEY WILL STAY AT THE HOTEL AMERICANA OF NEW YORK AT 53ND STREET AND SEVENTH AVENUE. THE EMBASSY HAS GIVEN THEM THE NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BOOKER (EB:IFD) AND OFFICE DIRECTOR RICHARD J. SMITH (EC/IFD/OIA) TO CALLAS CONTACTS IN THE DEPARTMENT. EMBASSY HAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THEY MAY WISH TO CALL OFFICE OF EXIM BANK CHAIRMAN CASEY FROM UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW YORK BEFORE COMING TO WASHINGTON,

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR MESSRS.
EIKELAND AND SIEBKE TO MEET WITH APPROPRIATE EXIM BANK
OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON ON NOVEMBER 4.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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